

2300 Lake Elmo Drive
Billings, MT 59105

NOTICE OF DECISION

March 19, 2002

TO: Environmental Quality Council
Director's Office, Dept. of Environmental Quality
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
 Director's Office
 Parks Division
 Fisheries Division
 Wildlife Division
Lands Section
Design & Construction
Legal Unit
Regional Supervisors
Montana Historical Society, State Preservation Office
Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council
Montana Wildlife Federation
Montana State Library
George Ochenski
Montana Environmental Information Center
Wayne Hirst, Montana State Parks Foundation
Bob Harrington, DNRC Area Manager, Southern Land Office
County Commissioners
Allie Wood, USDA Forest Service
Roger Ferguson

Ladies and Gentlemen:

A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared for USFS replacement of a footbridge crossing the West Fork of Rock Creek (Camp Senia Trail Bridge). The draft EA was circulated for 30 days and legal notices were published in the Billings Gazette, Helena Independent Record, and Carbon County News, as well as Montana's electronic bulletin board. The Montana Historical Society commented that impacts to cultural properties were unlikely, because the bridge replacement will occur in the same location as the old bridge. One person supported the project as being beneficial to hikers, USFS personnel, fire fighters, and cabin owners needing access to the area.

The department has decided to issue a Stream Protection Act permit for the project as proposed.

This project is subject to appeal, which must be submitted to the FWP Director in writing, and postmarked within 30 days of the date on this decision notice. The appeal must specifically describe the basis for the appeal, explain how the appellant has previously commented to the department or participated in the decision-making process, and lay out how FWP might address the concerns in the appeal. If you have questions regarding this decision notice, please contact me at 247-2951 or hnyberg@state.mt.us.

Sincerely,

Harvey E. Nyberg
Regional Supervisor